

December 17, 2023

Announcements
Kevin Shackelford

Song Leader
John Hopper

Scripture Reading
Eli Carter

Opening Prayer
Caleb McMillin(A.M.)
David Smith (P.M.)

Closing Prayer
Ross Shackelford (A.M.)
J C Newby (P.M.)

Lord's Table
Tim McMillin

Count and Usher
Randell Koon & J C Newby

Wednesday Night Song Leader
Logan Yancey (12/20/23)

OUR RECORD

December 10, 2023

Sunday Bible Study: 87
Sunday Morning Worship: 101
Sunday Evening Worship: 72
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 76

BULLETIN BY E-MAIL

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:
office.chapmanchurch@gmail.com

chapmanchurch.com

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

1. **Hear** the Gospel (Romans 10:13-17).
2. **Believe** the Gospel (Acts 15:7; Mark 16:15, 16).
3. **Repent** of Sins (Acts 3:19).
4. **Confess** Faith in Christ (Acts 8:37).
5. **Be Baptized** for Remission of Sins(Acts 2:38).
6. **Be Faithful** (Revelation 2:10).



CHAPMAN CHURCH OF CHRIST
250 COUNTY ROAD 550
RIPLEY, MS 38663

THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

Published Weekly by
Chapman Church of Christ
Ripley, Mississippi
(662) 502-2806
chapmanchurch.com

ELDERS: Terry Chapman, Brad McAlister,
Jarvene Shackelford, Tommy Wade

DEACONS: Bryan Davis, John Hopper,
Rickey Loveless, Chris Moore, Kevin
Shackelford, Wayne Vandygriff, Larry Wood

PREACHER: Mark Lindley

WHAT THE CHRISTIAN LIFE CAN DO FOR YOU Mark Lindley

Thinking about the blessings of the Christian life should cause one to want to be a Christian. Consider a few of the blessings the Christian life offers.

The Christian life will give you the *providence of God*. Paul wrote, "And we know that **all things work together** for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose...He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also **freely give us all things?**" (Romans 8:28, 32). The fact that God was willing to give His Son to die for our sins proves that He will provide us with "all things." At times a Christian may *feel* lonely, but he is never alone. God will never leave His people, but will provide for them and uphold them constantly with His right hand (Isaiah 41:10).

The Christian life will give you the *purpose of God*. The Christian's purpose is revealed in the following words: "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate **to be conformed to the image of his Son...**" (Romans 8:29). To conform to the image of God's Son should be the main goal of every Christian. Following the perfect example of Christ is really the purpose for which man has been created. It is sad that every day in America an average of 89 people die by their own hand. They choose to end their lives because they feel life is not worth living. So many people are aimlessly wandering through life, feeling lost and hopeless. The good news for them is that the Christian life offers meaning and purpose. Living for Christ gives us purpose.

The Christian life will give you the *people of God*. The Scriptures make it clear that God has a people: "I will call them **my people**, which were not my people; and...there shall they be called **the children of the living God**" (Romans 9:25-26). God's people have fellowship with one another (I John 1:7) and bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2). When tragedy strikes and life knocks us to our knees, brothers and sisters in Christ provide love and support. Yes, the spiritual ties shared in Christ are truly special and will last throughout eternity.

The Christian life will give you the *promise of God*. "Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end **the promise might be sure to all the seed...**" (Romans 4:16). God promised Abraham that through his seed all families of the earth would be blessed (Genesis 12:1-3). The meaning of the promise is that God would send His Son through the seed of Abraham, and would thereby make salvation possible for both Jews and Gentiles. Those who become Christians receive this promise of salvation from sin and the promise of eternal life (Romans 6:23; I John 2:25). When the Christian comes to the end of life's journey, draws his last breath and closes his eyes in death, the promise of salvation and eternal life will give security and comfort to the soul in that dark hour.

Yes, the Christian life offers providence, purpose, people, and a promise. Nevertheless, the Christian life will provide none of these blessings until one becomes a Christian. If you have never obeyed the Gospel, will you become a Christian today?

Throwing Stones by: A.C. Quinn

Speaking unkindly of the mistakes and failures (sins) of others without considering their own sins is a practice all too common among the public in general and Christians in particular. While such as it occurs in the world is unacceptable, it should be totally unspeakable among Christians.

Someone has rightly said, "People who live in glass houses should not throw stones." This adage speaks volumes to the hypocrisy of those who forget that they, too, are human, and that God does not categorize sin on a continuum from large to small. Sin is the transgression of God's law (1 John 3:4).

The Pharisees, intent upon tempting the Lord, brought a woman before him whom they accused of being taken in the act of adultery. "Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?" (John 8:5). It is true that Moses so commanded (Deut. 17:7); however, they forgot a major element in that command: the witnesses who brought the sinner forth were to be the first to stone him. Jesus, knowing the hearts of these deceitful Pharisees, added a most significant requirement before which they could not stand: "...He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone" (John 8:7).

These self-righteous Pharisees were convicted of their own consciences and so departed "...beginning at the eldest, even unto the last..." (v.9). Jesus did not condone the sins of the adulterous woman, nor did he justify the self-righteousness of the Pharisees who departed convicted of their own consciences, and no doubt, ashamed.

The Lord taught another potent lesson similar to that of "casting stones." It is another regarding the self-righteous magnifying the sins of others while they refuse to reflect upon their own sin. This is the case of the mote and the beam. "...And why beholdest the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye" (Matthew 7:3-5).

Brother Burton Coffman makes this observation in his commentary on Matthew: "One who judges others is compared to a person presuming to cast a splinter out of his brother's eye while a plank is in his own eye! This is a vivid picture of a person who ignores his own grievous sins while trying to correct the relatively minor shortcomings of another. The mote and the beam represent the disparity between that which is tiny, insignificant, almost invisible, and that which is obvious, flagrant, and obtrusive.

The mote hunter is the nitpicker, the specialist in fine, disputed points, who focuses on the most minute deviations while ignoring far more basic and important considerations."

Christians should forgive the trespasses of brothers (Matthew 6:14-15). They should help bear the burdens of their brothers (Gal. 6:2). They should love one another with pure hearts (1 Peter 1:22). By doing these things, they will not be engaged in "throwing stones."

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHRISTMAS BASKETS & CAROLING
Sunday, December 17, 2023
After Evening Service

FIFTH SUNDAY
Sunday, December 31, 2023
No meal after morning service
PM Service will be regular time – 2 PM

A Plea For Prayers
Please pray for spiritual and
numerical growth for the Chapman
Congregation in 2023.

PROGRAMS OF WORK

[Website: chapmanchurch.com](http://chapmanchurch.com)

Articles • Sermons (Audio) • Chapman Challengers

[The Bible Broadcast](#)

Sunday Mornings at 8 AM • WKZU radio 104.9 FM

[Southern Sentinel Article](#)

Every other Wednesday

[Correspondence Course](#)

Study the Bible in your home, at your convenience, by enrolling in a free Bible correspondence course.

To enroll: call (837-7012), write (250 CR 550, Ripley, MS 38663) or e-mail (chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net)

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*Remember count your blessings,
pray for our lost ones, the sick, the
world and the broken-hearted.*

Wonderful to have Joy Simmons and Donna McMillin back with us.

SICK SUNDAY: Wilma Wood

REHAB: Juan Stroupe (TCH/Rehab)

EXTENDED ILLNESS: Joanie Kate Reese, Everett Hurt, Olivia Pounders, Garrison Coats, Joe Clark, George Doss, Thad Berryman, John Walker Perry, Juanita Michael

CANCER:) Dorothy Hopper (John's Mother) Billy McBryde (Rita Smith's Father), George Doss (Kelly Brewer's Father), Deborah Williams (Kim Lindley's Aunt), Ralph Shaw (Janie Chapman's Son-in-law), Loxlee Eaton, David South, Eddie Mauney, Haley Loveless, Sidra Davis, Trish Clark, Kevin Clifton, Austin Wentz, Betty Faye Ledbury

SHUT-INS: Tippah County Health & Rehab: Romia Palmer, Jimmy Berryman, Peggy Davis, Joe Clark

TEXT ALERTS

Text **chapmancoc** to **8779897012** to receive Chapman's Text Alerts.

Sermons available on Facebook and YouTube